

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /070 W

----- 031807

R 211152Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5413

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

SFHJA/USMISSION BERLIN 0108

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5795

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: THE PRIME MINISTER'S TRAVEL PLANS

1. NEITHER THE SOVIET EMBASSY NOR THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IS YET ABLE TO SAY WHEN PRECISELY THE PRIME MINISTER PLANS TO TRAVEL TO MOSCOW PURSUANT TO THE USSR'S LONG-STANDING INVITATION. BOTH SOVIET AND MEA OFFICERS TELL US THAT THE PROSPECTS THAT MRS. GANDHI WILL GO IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS REMAIN GOOD BUT NO DEFINITE DATE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY HER SECRETARIAT. A SOVIET EMBOFF TOLD US APRIL 20 THAT HE THOUGHT THE FIRST WEEK IN JUNE IS THE MOST LIKELY AND ALSO THE EARLIEST FEASIBLE TIMING.

2. REPORTS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MAY ALSO VISIT BERLIN OR BELGRADE ON THE SAME TRIP HAVE ALSO BEEN CIRCULATING. THE POSSIBILITY OF A BERLIN VISIT WAS FIRST HINTED AT IN THE MADRAS HINDU APRIL 5. BUT A GDR EMBOFF TOLD AN EMBOFF
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APRIL 20 HIS EMBASSY HAS NO WORD OF SUCH A VISIT AND THE

WEST GERMANS HEARD EARLIER THROUGH A GDR JOURNALIST THAT THE GDR AMBASSADOR WAS SURPRISED WHEN HE READ THE HINDU REPORT. HOWEVER, IT WAS ANNOUNCED OFFICIALLY APRIL 20 THAT THE HEAD OF THE RULING CONGRESS PARTY D.K. BAROOAH, AFTER A TWO-DAY PRIVATE VISIT TO LONDON APRIL 23, 24, WILL BE TRAVELING TO THE GDR AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA APRIL 25-MAY 2 AT THE INVITATION OF THE RESPECTIVE COMMUNIST PARTIES. BAROOAH'S VISIT TO BERLIN MAY INDICATE MRS. GANDHI HAS NO PLANS TO GO TO THE GDR AT THIS TIME.

3. THE YUGOSLAV POLITICAL COUNSELLOR INDICATED TO US APRIL 21 THAT THE YUGOSLAVS HAVE HOPES THE PRIME MINISTER WILL PAY A VISIT TO THEIR CAPITAL IN CONNECTION WITH HER MOSCOW VISIT. FOREIGN MINISTER MINIC, IN DELHI ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT APRIL 14-16, RENEWED PRESIDENT TITO'S INVITATION IN A PERSONAL MEETING WITH THE PM. THE YUGOSLAV EMBOFF DISCOUNTED THE POSSIBILITY SHE WOULD GO TO BERLIN BUT ADDED EMPHATICALLY THAT IF SHE DID GO SHE "WOULD THEN HAVE TO COME TO BELGRADE."

4. THERE HAD BEEN EARLIER SPECULATION MRS. GANDHI WOULD ALSO VISIT PARIS, BUT THE FRENCH EMBASSY EMPHATICALLY AFFIRMS THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY OF SUCH A VISIT THIS SUMMER.
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